

## Mary Lou Terrien

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**From:** Shelly Sinas <shellysinas@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 24, 2016 11:31 AM  
**To:** Mary Lou Terrien  
**Subject:** House Bill, HB 5232

I am writing to express my concern with House Bill 5232. My husband and I relocated to Grand Rapids two years ago based in large part on the exciting opportunity to live in a federally recognized historic neighborhood. Since we moved to the city we have invested hundreds of thousands of dollars into our home and my husband has set up a new law firm that now employs three people in the Grand Rapids area. If the Heritage Hill neighborhood did not exist it is very unlikely that we would have moved to Grand Rapids. The historic preservation district created a thriving neighborhood in close proximity to downtown. We had no interest in living in the suburbs and we are proud to be playing a small part in saving Michigan's history. We would not make the kinds of investments we continue to make in our home if we did not know that our neighbors were going to be held to historic standards. The historic district encourages investment and is creating a healthy neighborhood in one of our urban cores. The district drives investment and appreciation. Any risk to historic preservation would be put our property rights, and investments, at risk. It would reduce investment in our urban core at a time when communities across Michigan need investment more than ever. It would reduce our local tax base. This is a bill searching for a problem that does not exist.

Michelle Sinas  
550 College Ave SE  
Grand Rapids, MI 49503